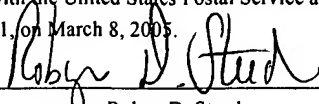


IFW

PATENT
Docket No. 39303-20384.00

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 8, 2005.


Robyn D. Steed

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Masaru AISO, et al.

Serial No.: 10/608,786

Filing Date: June 26, 2003

For: DRIVE APPARATUS FOR VOLUME
CONTROL DEVICES

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: 2644

STATUS REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

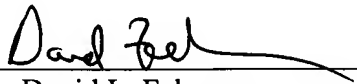
The above-referenced patent application was filed on June 26, 2003. Applicants have not yet received an action from the Patent Office. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request a status report as to when they may expect to receive an Office Action in the above-identified application.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Status Request.

However, if any fee is required, authorization is given to charge the amount of this fee to
Deposit Account No. **03-1952 (Ref. No. 39303-20384.00)**.

Dated: March 8, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
David L. Fehrman
Registration No. 28,600

Morrison & Foerster LLP
555 West Fifth Street
Suite 3500
Los Angeles, California 90013-1024
Telephone: (213) 892-5601
Facsimile: (213) 892-5454